

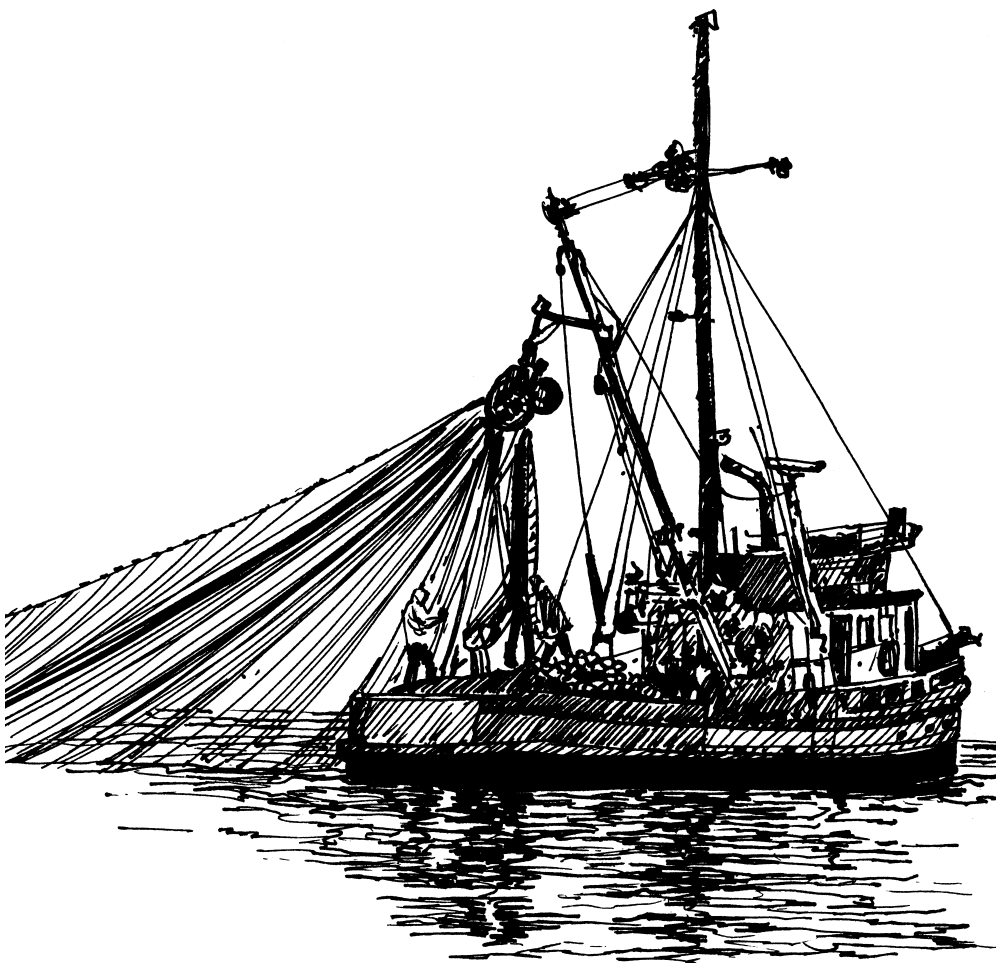


# Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Resource Management Plan

## Draft Environmental Impact Statement

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northwest Region  
with Assistance from the Puget Sound Treaty Tribes  
and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

April 2004







**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**  
Northwest Region  
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1  
Seattle, WA 98115

## **COVER SHEET**

### **Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Resource Management Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

Responsible Agencies: National Marine Fisheries Service (NEPA Lead Agency)  
with assistance from the Puget Sound Treaty Tribes and  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Type of Statement: Draft Environmental Impact Statement

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#### **Abstract:**

The Proposed Action is implementation of the 2004-2009 Puget Sound Chinook Harvest Resource Management Plan (RMP), jointly-developed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Puget Sound treaty tribes under Limit 6 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) 4(d) Rule. The proposed RMP would regulate commercial, recreational, ceremonial, and subsistence salmon fisheries potentially affecting the listed Puget Sound Chinook Evolutionarily Significant Unit within the marine and freshwater areas of Puget Sound. Harvest objectives specified in the RMP account for fisheries-related mortality of Puget Sound chinook throughout the migratory range of this species – from Oregon and Washington to Southeast Alaska. The RMP also includes implementation, monitoring, and evaluation procedures designed to ensure fisheries are consistent with the RMP's objectives for conservation and use. Fishery activities under the RMP would affect the listed Puget Sound Chinook and Hood Canal Summer-Run Chum Evolutionarily Significant Units. The Environmental Impact Statement examines the effects of the Proposed Action and three alternatives on a range of issues including fish species, economics, federal treaty trust responsibilities, subsistence use and wildlife. The National Marine Fisheries Service has identified the Proposed Action as its preferred alternative because the agency believes that this alternative would be most successful at balancing resource conservation, trust obligations to Native American tribes, promotion of sustainable fisheries and prevention of lost economic potential associated with overfishing, declining species and degraded habitats.

**Comments must be received by: 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2004**



